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Agenda item 116

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Pedro **Cardoso** (Brazil)

I. Introduction

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2005, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 48th meeting on 23 November 2005 (see A/C.3/60/SR.48).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Document A/C.3/60/L.72

3. At its 48th meeting, on 23 November, the Committee had before it the draft programme of work of the Third Committee for the sixty-first session of the General Assembly (A/C.3/60/L.72), which had been submitted by the Chairman on the basis of consultations held with the Bureau of the Committee.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted its draft programme of work, as contained in document A/C.3/60/L.72 (see para. 6, draft decision I) and recommended its approval by the plenary of the General Assembly (see A/C.3/60/SR.48).

B. Consideration of a draft decision proposed by the Chairman

5. At its 48th meeting, on 23 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it adopt a decision relating to the rotation of the post of Rapporteur of the Committee for subsequent sessions of the General Assembly (see para. 6, draft decision II).

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III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

6. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Programme of work of the Third Committee for the sixty-first session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly approves the programme of work of the Third Committee for the sixty-first session as set out below:

Item 1. Social development:

(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;

(c) United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all;

(d) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing.

Item 2. Crime prevention and criminal justice.

Item 3. International drug control.

Item 4. Advancement of women:

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

Item 5. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

Item 6. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:

Follow-up to the special session on children.

Item 7. Indigenous issues.

Item 8. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination:

Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

Item 9. Right of peoples to self-determination.

Item 10. Promotion and protection of human rights:

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

Draft decision II
Rotation of the post of Rapporteur of the Third Committee

The General Assembly decides that:

(a) In order to rationalize further its methods of work for subsequent sessions of the General Assembly, the Third Committee shall endeavour to elect its Rapporteur on the basis of his/her experience and personal competence and on the basis of a rotation among the regional groups as follows: African States, Asian States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States;

(b) The Third Committee shall endeavour to elect a candidate nominated by the Group of Western European and other States to serve as its Rapporteur at the sixty-first session of the General Assembly.